

The end of knowledge is Love.
The end of education is Character.

Sai Dharmam

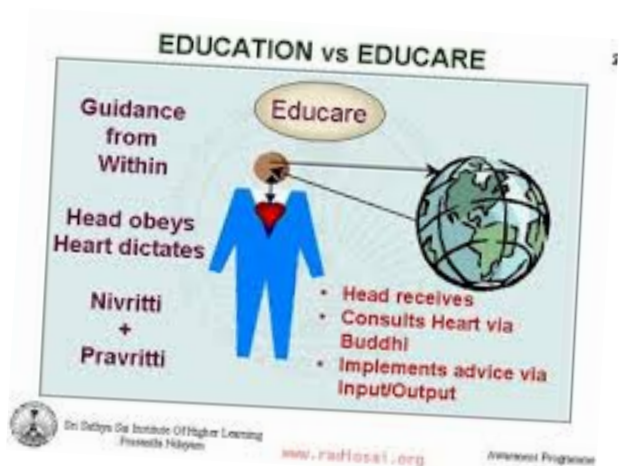
Sri Sathya Sai Baba Centre of Cooksville

What is education?

The English dictionary definition of education is "the process of receiving or giving systematic instruction, especially at a school or university". But Bhagawan said "Education is of two types. The first type is a collection of facts and knowledge about the external world and sharing them with students. The second type is Educare. Educare involves the deep understanding of the knowledge that springs from within and imparting it to students. But today's education gives the students knowledge only about the external world". Education in schools is where we learn about the world as Swami said. We as students learn how the world operates by learning from mistakes made in the past, learning math that helps us buy or sell things and many more. Then we take all this information and some of us pursue higher education to get a good job in the future. This September, all of us go back to learning new things and expanding our knowledge. But some people slack off in class and fail because they don't even try. I remember, my math teacher from Grade 7 worked in Korea for a few years. He told us (my class) how lucky we are to have free education and how in places like Korea, you have to fight (not physically) for a seat in elementary school. That's why we as students should be grateful for

the education that we are given and we should perform to the best of our abilities in the classroom. Also this September, we return to SSE. SSE (Sathya Sai Education) was established in 1968 when Swami opened the first Sathya Sai School in the world. In that school, students were taught Swami's teachings. Then, centres all across the world started SSE classes where they taught the same teachings. For all that we learn in SSC and school, all the credit goes to the teachers and gurus who work very hard to provide us with the knowledge we need to succeed in the future.

Jai Sai Ram



What has Swami said about education?

The End of Education is Character. We have all heard the famous quote by Swami, but what does it really mean? In today's society, an education given by institutes are essential in order to make a living. Students pursue higher education in hopes of becoming more and more successful. Swami tells us that there are two types of education. The first one is facts and knowledge about the external world, and sharing them with students. The second type of education is educare. Educare involves the deep understanding of the knowledge that springs within. An example would be love in the form of compassion. If we perform compassionate or kind acts towards others and make them happy, subconsciously there are some parts of our brain that feels that same happiness that we have created for others. In essence, when we make others happy, we make ourselves happy as well.

And, when we share others sorrows, the other person feels healed, and internally we feel empowered that we have something valuable to contribute. Educare is that which establishes love and kinship between fellow human beings. Swami tells us that, the secular education that most follow is not enough. It needs to be supplemented by spiritual education: education without culture is like a kite with a broken string. No one knows where it will fall and what damage it will cause to others. Therefore, such education does not benefit anyone. The best example Swami gives is of Prahalad as he lived up the well referenced quote. At any given point in time, he followed the values he had been taught and practiced it 24/7, even given the abusive nature of his father. By upholding the human values we have learned, we can all live up to the statement: the end of education is character.

Devotee Speaks

As a student, one of my top priorities is my education. Whether it be my academics, SSE classes, or my music, I am always learning. In almost all aspects of my education, I've always had someone to guide me, like a teacher, guru, or even my parents. For that, I am truly grateful. They share one of the most powerful assets with me, knowledge. I believe that without the right mindset I won't be able to achieve anything. Many young students look at their teachers as someone trying to control them. In reality, they're only sharing with us very valuable lessons that we can use to change the world for the better!

Many other kids out there, just like us, are not as fortunate as us to be able to go to school everyday, and don't get the same opportunities as us. But we should not let this go to our heads. We should be even more appreciative and grateful for what we have, we should learn to be humble. It's not always about how much you have going on inside your mind, it's about what's in your heart. Being highly educated is worthless, if you're not doing any good with it. As Swami says, the end of education is character. You can be a first-class physician, but what is the point of all that, if you don't have the right intentions in your heart? If you decide to become a doctor, you shouldn't be focused on the income, instead, focus on how much good you are doing for the rest of your community. I've learned to apply this to many aspects of my own life. Whatever I do, must be for the greater good of our community, rather than for myself.



Presidents Message

Aum Sri Sai Ram,

The Sai Spiritual Education (SSE) program was founded by Sathya Sai Baba in 1969.

Swami has said it is "a program for young children where they will listen to stories from the Scriptures, the Epics, and the Lives of Saints belonging to all religions. Children must also be trained to sing devotional songs, enact small plays with themes selected from the classics. They must be taught to cultivate habits of discipline, for these alone can ensure happiness: both individual and social.

The ideal of the Sai Spiritual Education is to raise a generation of boys and girls who have a clean and clear conscience. SSE is the primary basis of the great movement to restore Righteousness in the world. The young minds of children are not polluted and hence they can be led into good ways of living, simplicity, humility and discipline. Guide the children in the spiritual path, through simple and moral living; Instill in the young minds the importance of duty, devotion and discipline; Help them understand the five human values, so that they can practice these in their daily lives; Guide them to Love all and Serve all. In short help them grow into worthy citizens

to serve the world; identifying the divinity presenting all. Education must aim at providing the child not livelihood, but, a life worth living. The promotion of human values must become an integral part of the educational process."

We would like to welcome everyone back to the S.S.E. after the summer holidays. Please remember the importance of the SSE program for your children. Our Lord's name is carried throughout the SSE program. The values that are being taught should be practiced at home. Parental involvement is a key factor. Swami's birthday celebrations are coming up in November. We would appreciate all the parent volunteers to help. This will make sure everyone gets a chance to be part of the celebrations. If you have any questions, please contact Sister Sowmya, Sister Anita, Sister Kausi, or any SSE guru for more details. Thank you all once again for all your love and devotion to Swami.

The end of education is character. Education without character is useless. ~ Sri Sathya Sai Baba, Prasanthi Nilayam, November 20, 2001

Bhajan

In the heart of my heart is a lovely melody
Deep in my soul is a prayer
just for Thee
Heart of my heart, deep in my
soul
My Lord, a prayer for Thee!
Deep in my soul is a song just
for Thee
Come, O my Lord, O my Lord, come to me
Heart of my heart, deep in my soul
My Lord, a song for Thee!
The songs that I sing are for all and for
Thee
But deep in my heart, a divine melody
A song just for You, my Lord, just for You
A song You will sing to me



Game

1. "End of Education is Character"
2. "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world"
3. "By education I mean an all-round drawing of the best in child and man in body, mind and spirit"
4. "Real education should enable one to utilise the knowledge one has acquired to meet the challenges of life and to make all human beings happy as far as possible"
5. "Education is the manifestation of the perfection already in man"
6. "An investment in knowledge pays the best interest"
7. " Education is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today"
8. "Education is what remains after one has forgotten what one has learned in school"
9. "The goal of education is the advancement of knowledge and dissemination of truth"

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Nelson Mandela
Benjamin Franklin
Albert Einstein
John Fitzgerald Kennedy
Malcolm X
Swami Vivekananda
Sathya Sai Baba
Mahatma Gandhi